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# FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

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ADJUSTING AGRICULTURE TO FUTURE NEEDS. . . . Secretary Anderson's speech before a meeting of agricultural leaders sponsored by Rotary International, at Geneva, N.Y., October 10, contains an important statement on the need for developing better markets for agricultural products and adjusting production in line with those needs, Secretary Anderson said in part:

"The government has some price support commitments, as you know. These commitments were a necessary part of the wartime production program. . . Unfortunately, some of these commitments tend to freeze us to the wartime production pattern. . . For example, the price commitments tend to hold up the acreage of potatoes, and they do not encourage the necessary production of milk.

"I want to make it plain that I believe in price supports. . . However, we have not yet developed the present price support program to the needs of the reconversion program. It will not yet cope with the adjustment problem that lies before us. We must find ways to make the price support program serve the purpose Congress intended when it passed the Steagall Amendment--that is, to help the farmer make postwar adjustments, to protect his income while he adjusts. If we do not actually adjust during this period when we have safeguards and time and opportunity, we may wake up one day to find ourselves doing another cliff-hanging act."

The important role of the new permanent school lunch legislation and the Agricultural Research and Marketing Service Act of 1946 in developing larger, more stable markets for agricultural goods was also stressed by the Secretary in this speech. (Agriculture Must Help Build Peace, USDA release 2231.)

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HELP WANTED. . . . Ways the producer, the homemaker, the distributor, allied industries, the retailer, and restaurants can help prevent waste of our all-time record potato crop of 471 million bushels are listed in the Potato Fact Sheet, just out. Included in the folder is information regarding the food value of potatoes, buying information, cooking types and recipes. In case you didn't know, potatoes are a good source of vitamin C, contain some B vitamins, iron, and other important minerals, and starch. Copies of the Potato Fact Sheet are available from the Production and Marketing Administration or from the Office of Information.

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CONFERENCE POSTPONED. . . . Owing to the hotel strike in Washington, D. C., the Juvenile Delinquency Conference has been postponed to November 20, 21, 22. Delegates have been asked to notify Atty. Gen. Tom Clark if they can attend at the later date.

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DECONTROL SPEED UP. . . . Following quickly the President's announcement of the decontrol of livestock and meat and his announcement that decontrols generally would be accelerated, a number of new decontrol announcements have already been made by USDA and OPA. On October 17, USDA announced the immediate termination of controls over the purchase of corn and other feed grains by feed manufacturers, feeders, food manufacturers, dry processors and wet processors, stating that supplies of feed grains are now sufficient to permit their unrestricted use by the industries affected by WFO 145. At the same time all restrictions on the distribution and use of protein meal and soybeans were terminated by the Department of Agriculture and protein meal set asides were also ended. Meat set asides have also been terminated by the Department.

Price ceilings were lifted on all by-product feeds and mixed feeds, edible oils and edible oil products. soybeans and flaxseed by OPA effective October 17. Oleomargarine, shortening, mayonnaise, salad dressing and other dressing products, cooking and salad oils head the list of fats and oils taken off price control by this action. OPA explained that the usual price relationship of lard and vegetable oils would be distorted by the expected sharp rise in uncontrolled lard prices, which would make it almost impossible to retain control on peanut oil, corn oil, cottonseed oil and soybean oil. As regards by-product feeds and mixed feeds, OPA explained that these too had been lifted to maintain proper price relationships. Otherwise sharp livestock price increases which have followed the lifting of livestock controls would have caused protein feeds to be fed inefficiently and wastefully because of the favorable feeding ratio that would have existed.

A move in the opposite direction is a recent USDA order amending WFO-51 to tighten syrup and molasses manufacturing controls. With the object of recovering approximately 100,000 more tons of sugar from the 1946 crop, the amended order was put into effect. It aims to lessen diversion of sugarcane from the production of rationed sugars to the production of unrationed syrups and molasses.

When the situation on decontrols clarifies somewhat, OPA plans to issue a comprehensive list of items under control and of those which have been removed from price ceilings.

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QUARANTINE ON MEXICAN CATTLE LIFTED. . . . The border quarantine against Mexican cattle was lifted on October 18, following a joint Mexican-United States veterinary survey which failed to uncover any signs of foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico. Mexican herds of cattle to which zebu bulls from Brazil were added during the past year were examined in the survey.

Mexico ordinarily ships between 300,000 and 500,000 head of light cattle to the United States each year. These are put on pastures and in feed lots over a large area in the western and middle western parts of the country. (USDA release 2274)

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DAYS FOLLOWING DECONTROL. . . . It's still too early to establish any definite marketing trends during the first few days since the decontrol of livestock was announced by President Truman on the evening of October 14, to take effect the following day. On the second day of decontrol cattle and hog marketings advanced sharply and prices reached record levels. Prices softened some Thursday however.

Now is a favorable time to move grass-fed cattle off the range and pasture land. Livestock officials think it wise for farmers to check with their marketing agents before sending hogs to market, however, as some packing houses were not able to handle all the hogs received on October 16 and it appeared likely they would have to hold over some hogs on the night of the 17th also. Such hold overs add to the farmer's cost.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson issued a statement on price decontrol of livestock, meats and other livestock products on October 15. Some excerpts follow:

"The Price Administrator has today submitted and I have approved an order which removes price ceilings from all livestock and all food or feed products processed or manufactured in whole or substantial part from livestock. This price decontrol action has been taken following detailed conferences with the President and is pursuant to provisions of the Price Control Extension Act of 1946, which specifically authorizes the removal of maximum prices from any agricultural commodity if, in the judgment of the Secretary of Agriculture, such action would be consistent with the purposes of the Act.

"In my judgment the action taken today is consistent with the purposes of the Act in that it will promote the earliest practicable balance between production and demand for livestock products and facilitate a successful transition of the livestock industry to a sound peacetime basis.

"In order for the beef cattle industry to be in a sound condition and able to provide a continuous supply of beef to meet consumers' demands, it is essential that the number of cattle on our farms and ranches be no larger than the carrying capacity of the pastures and range land. Otherwise, the grazing land will be depleted and future production impaired. Moreover, severe hardship for range cattle producers could result in the event of only moderately unfavorable weather.

"At the present time the number of beef cattle on farms and ranches is dangerously high, and this condition will become worse unless liberal marketings for slaughter are resumed without delay. This could not happen when there was constant agitation for the removal of price ceilings and when announcement was made that a decontrol petition would be filed at the very time that the run of grass-fat cattle should be at its height.

"...We have estimated that, with continued price controls, there would be 44,800,000 head of beef cattle on January 1, 1947. This would be an increase of nearly 4,000,000 during the year to a record level for all time. Thus we have enough cattle so that if slaughtering is encouraged we could have a per capita supply of beef this fall and winter and on into next spring and summer larger than in any recent year.

"Many of the cattle that should be marketed from the standpoint of sound livestock operations are range cattle that are suitable for immediate slaughter. Some would need only a short feeding period while some, of course, would need to be fed until spring or early summer...

"In addition to the cattle that should be moved from ranges to slaughter houses and feed lots there now are many cattle in feed lots that should be slaughtered soon...

"In view of the situation which I have summarized, the decision was reached that decontrol of cattle and beef would best carry out the purposes of the stabilization legislation. Moreover, because of the close interrelation of beef and other meats, it is not considered practicable to maintain controls on other livestock and other meats even though pork, lamb, and mutton will not be as plentiful as beef."

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BACKGROUND STATEMENT ON THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION. . . . Why the Preparatory Commission was set up by  
FAO at the recent conference in Copenhagen and the objectives toward which it will work is set forth in a background statement issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Among proposals which the Preparatory Commission will consider is the establishment of a World Food Board. However, the Commission which will consist of representatives of 16 nations of FAO and five especially interested international organizations (plus representatives of three important nonmember nations if they accept the invitation to take part in the work) is completely free as to the kind of program it will recommend and the kind of organization that could best carry it out.

Copies of The Preparatory Commission--A Background Statement, FAO PR 17, may be obtained from the Office of Information of the Department of Agriculture.

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RADIO PROGRAMS, OCTOBER 26. . . . CONSUMER TIME - "Spice News" ... More black pepper for Americans will be predicted when  
CONSUMER TIME gives "The Spice News", Saturday, October 26, 12:15-12:30 p.m., EST, over the National Broadcasting Company. Will give tips on best way to keep spices in the kitchen...how spices can help the woman cooking on a budget...the importance of spices in the Middle Ages and in the early American colonies.

AMERICAN FARMER, ABC, 12:30 p.m., EST, the  
"Business Side of Farming," regular USDA feature.

NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, NBC, 1:00 p.m.,  
EST, "Department of Agriculture Headlines."

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IN CHARGE OF PRESS RELATIONS. . . . R. L. Webster has been appointed associate director of information in charge of press relations for the Department of Agriculture. In taking charge of the Department's press relations and special reports, Mr. Webster succeeds Donald J. Lehman who has resigned as assistant director of information to join the staff of Business Week. Other shifts in the Office of Information include: James H. McCormick, Assistant Director in charge of Publications, Motion Pictures and Exhibits; Seerley Reid, Executive Assistant to the Director; W. K. Charles, Chief of the Division of Special Reports; and Kermit Overby, Chief of the Press Service.

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NEW ARA ADMINISTRATOR. . . . W. V. Lambert has been appointed Administrator of the Agricultural Research Administration, following the voluntary transfer of P. V. Cardon because of health from that post to the position of special assistant to the chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering.

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STATE FHA DIRECTORS NAMED. . . . Selection of 21 State directors to head up operations of Farmers Home Administration in their States was announced on October 18 by Dillard B. Lasseter, Administrator.

State directors named were: J. B. Slack, N.C.; J. A. Texada, Jr., Fla; R. L. Vansant, Ga.; G. H. Reuse, Ill.; Earl Mayhew, Ky.; James A. Keane, Mont.; Roswell G. Carr, Mich.; R. Tyler Space, N.Y.; A. L. Sorenson, Ohio; E. Lee Ozbirn, Okla.; Walter A. Duffy, Oreg., Wash., Alaska; Robert F. Kolb, S.C.; Ellsworth S. Beasley, Tenn.; L. J. Cappleman, Tex.; Thomas C. Schmidt, Wisc.; F. L. Spencer, La.; Thomas B. Fatherree, Miss.; H. F. Worcester, Maine; C. Carter Chase, Va.; Dale B. Jacques, Puerto Rico; R. G. Ellyson, W. Va.

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DOPE ON FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION. . . . How the new Farmers Home Administration will function, carrying out the program of Farm Security Administration and the Emergency Crop Loans work of Farm Credit Administration, will be explained on the "American Farmer" broadcast over the ABC network, 12:30 to 1:00 EST, on November 2. The new administrator, Dillard Lasseter, will discuss with a representative group of farm people how the new organization and its policies will affect them as rehabilitation borrowers, farm ownership borrowers, insured mortgage borrowers, and veterans.

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SOME USDA RELEASES. . . . Crop Report--2241; Agriculture Must Help Build Peace--  
Speech by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson at Rotary  
meeting, Geneva, N.Y., Oct. 10--2231;  
25 Countries to be Represented at Second IEFC Meeting--2254;  
Year-Round Source of the New Drug Rutin--2252;  
The Dairy Situation--2249;  
Secretary Anderson speaks to Illinois State Chamber of Commerce--2262;  
Statement on Decontrol of Livestock--by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson--2267;  
Lambert Becomes ARA Administrator--2273;  
USDA Lifts Mexican Cattle Quarantine--2274;  
Citrus: Estimates of Production and Utilization, 1943-44 to 1945-46--2277;  
Controls Taken Off Purchases and Use of Feed Grains--2286;  
Protein Meal Controls Are Terminated--2284;  
IEFC Recommends Bean Allocations for July-December, 1946-2291;  
Lasseter Names State FHA Directors--2297.

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NEW USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . .National Food Guide (a revision of the National Food Guide), AIS-53; Makeovers from Leather, Fur and Felt, Misc. Pub. 614; Directory of the Meat Inspection Division, (Corrected to July 1, 1946); Variability of Certain Seed, Seedling, and Young-Plant Characters of Guayule, Tech. Bull. No. 919, August 1946; Anaplasmosis in Cattle, Circular No. 154, Revised August 1946; Annual Report on Tobacco Statistics, 1946, CS-20; Popular Publications for the Farmer and Homemaker--List No. 5, Revised July 1946.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . CPA on Oct. 8 allotted 10 million pounds of lead for the manufacture of insecticides during October, November and December to meet minimum requirements estimated by USDA--CPA-ID-33; California producer's ceilings on rough rice increased 23 cents per 100 lbs. on appraised rice and 85 cents per 100 lbs. on unappraised rice--OPA-T-5081; Program to alleviate leather shortages by stepping up imports and holding exports to a minimum announced by OWMR--OWMR release dated 10/8/46; Prices for food and beverages, served railroad diners exempted from price control--OPA-6870; Domestic green olives removed from price control October 11--OPA-6869; OPA official statement on decontrol of livestock, meat, food and feed products--OPA-6884; All services connected with marketing, handling and processing tobacco and tobacco products exempted from price control October 9--OPA-T-5069; Number of wheel type and track laying tractors which will go to UNRRA countries under CPA set aside has been reduced from 14,500 to 7,935 or more than 45 percent --CPA-ID-326; Manufacturers of bulk sweetened condensed milk will receive reduced allowance of sugar after November 1--OPA-6859. WAA has sold 16,000 acres of the Blue Bonnet Ordnance Works, McGregor, Tex., to Texas A & M for use as experiment stations, and demonstration farms, etc.--WAA-654; Removal from price control of all by-products feeds and mixed feeds, edible oils and edible oil products, soybeans and flaxseed effective October 17, announced by OPA--OPA-6892. OPA emphasizes that hides, leather and all leather products remain under price control despite decontrol of meat--OPA-6891; Price Decontrol Board announced on October 16 that it does not expect to direct reestablishment of ceilings over dairy products--PDB-16. All processors and distributors of livestock, meat and meat products required to retain until July 1, 1947 copies of records, reports and other documents that they were required to make to keep before October 15.--OPA-T-5113.

